Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for a computer system ~~comprises~~ comprising:

opening a first file ~~describing a first object~~ in an object environment running on the computer system, the first file including a specification of a first object;

determining, from the specification of the first object, a reference ~~for~~ to a second object~~, wherein the second object includes a first plurality of public attributes and a second plurality of private attributes~~;

receiving a second file ~~describing the second object from a storage system;~~ in response to the reference to the second object, the second file including a specification of the second object, the specification of the second object including information identifying a plurality of public attributes of the second object and a plurality of private attributes of the second object;

opening the second file ~~describing the second object~~ in the object environment;

determining a modified value for a public attribute ~~from the first plurality of public attributes for~~ of the second object; and

including, in the first file, the reference ~~for~~ to the second object and the modified value for the public attribute of the second object;

wherein the specification of the second object is not stored in the first file; and

wherein values for the ~~second~~ plurality of private attributes of the second object cannot be modified by users of the first file.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first file and the second file are stored on a storage system, and wherein the storage system is selected from a group consisting of: a network directory, an asset management system, and a database management system.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising geometrically coupling the first object to the second object in the object environment.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1 ~~wherein the first file includes a reference to a third object and a override value for a public attribute of the third object; and wherein the method~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

determining, from the specification of the first object, ~~the~~ a reference ~~for the~~ to a third object ~~in response to the first file~~;

receiving a third file ~~describing the third object from the storage system,~~ in response to the reference to the third object, the third file including a specification of the third object, the specification of the third object including information identifying a plurality of public attributes of the third object and a plurality of private attributes of the third object;

opening the third file ~~describing the third object~~ in the object environment; and

modifying a value for ~~the~~ a public attribute of the third object from a default value to ~~the~~ an override value ~~in response to~~ stored in the first file.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

opening a third file ~~describing a third object~~ in [[an]] the object environment, ~~wherein the third file includes a reference to the second object and includes a override value for the public attribute~~ the third file including a specification of a third object;

determining, from the specification of the third object, ~~the~~ a second reference ~~for~~ to the second object ~~in response to the third file~~;

~~receiving the second file describing the second object from the storage system; in response to the reference;~~

~~opening the second file describing the second object in the object environment;~~

~~and~~

creating, in response to the second reference to the second object, a second instance of the second object in the object environment; and

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modifying ~~the~~ a value for ~~the~~ a public attribute of the second instance of the second object from a default value to ~~the~~ an override value ~~in response to~~ stored in the third file.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

modifying the ~~second file~~ the specification of the second object to include an additional public attribute of the second object;

storing the modified specification of the second object in the second file;

reopening the first file ~~describing the first object~~ in the object environment;

determining, from the specification of the first object, the reference ~~for~~ to the second object;

receiving the second file ~~as modified describing the second object as modified from the storage system;~~ in response to the reference to the second object, the second file including the modified specification of the second object;

opening the second file ~~as modified describing the second object as modified~~ in the object environment;

modifying a value for the additional public attribute of the second object in the object environment; and

including, in the first file, the modified value for the additional public attribute.

8.   (Currently Amended) A computer system ~~including an object environment comprises~~ comprising:

a storage system configured to store a first file ~~describing a first object~~ including a specification of a first object and a second file ~~describing a second object~~ including a specification of a second object, ~~wherein the storage system is also configured to provide the first file in response to a first reference and configured to provide the second file in response to a second reference, and wherein~~ the specification of the second object ~~includes~~ including information identifying a ~~first~~ plurality of public attributes of the second object and a ~~second~~ plurality of private attributes of the second object; and

a processor communicatively coupled [[to]] with the storage system, wherein the processor is configured to:

open the first file ~~in an object environment;~~ <u>, wherein the processor is</u>

~~configured to~~

determine<u>, from the specification of the first object,</u> ~~the second~~ <u>a</u> reference

~~in response to the first file~~ <u>to the second object;</u> ~~, wherein the processor is configured to~~ \

determine<u>, from the specification of the first object,</u> a value [[of]] <u>for</u> a

public attribute ~~from the first plurality of public attributes for~~ <u>of</u> the second object<u>;</u> ~~in response to~~

~~the first file, wherein the processor is configured to~~

provide<u>, to the storage system,</u> the ~~second~~ reference to the ~~storage system~~

~~second object;~~ ~~, wherein the processor is configured to~~

receive the second file from the storage system<u>;</u> ~~, wherein the processor is~~

~~configured to~~

open the second file[[,]]<u>;</u> and ~~wherein the processor is configured to~~

override a default value [[of]] <u>for</u> the public attribute ~~from~~ <u>of</u> the second

object with the value <u>determined from the specification of the first object</u>;

wherein the <u>specification of the</u> second object is not stored in the first file; and

wherein values for the ~~second~~ plurality of private attributes <u>of the second object</u>

cannot be modified by users of the first file.

9.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 8 wherein the

storage system is selected from a group consisting of: <u>a</u> network directory ~~services~~, <u>an</u> asset

management system, <u>and a</u> database management system.

10.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim [[9]] <u>8</u> wherein the

processor is ~~also~~ <u>further</u> configured to<u>:</u>

modify <u>the value for</u> the public attribute ~~from~~ <u>of</u> the second object ~~with a~~

~~modified value~~; and

~~wherein the first file is modified to include the modified value~~ <u>include the</u>

<u>modified value for the public attribute of the second object in the first file.</u>

11.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim [[9]] 8 wherein the processor is ~~also~~ further configured to geometrically manipulate the first ~~model~~ object and the second ~~model~~ object.

12.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim [[9]] 8 wherein the storage system is ~~also~~ further configured to store a third file ~~describing a third object~~ including a specification of a third object, and ~~wherein the storage system is also configured to provide the third file in response to a third reference; and~~

wherein the processor is further configured to:

determine, from the specification of the first object, ~~the third~~ a reference ~~in response to the first file~~ to the third object; ~~wherein the processor is configured to~~

~~determined~~ determine, from the specification of the first object, a value [[of]] for a public attribute ~~from~~ of the third object; ~~in response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to~~

provide, to the storage system, the ~~third~~ reference to the ~~storage system~~ third object; ~~wherein the processor is configured to~~

receive the third file from the storage system; ~~wherein the processor is configured to~~

open the third file[[,]]; and ~~wherein the processor is configured to~~

override a default value [[of]] for the public attribute ~~from~~ of the third object with the value determined from the specification of the first object.

13.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim [[9]] 8 wherein the processor is further configured to:

determine, from the specification of the first object, another ~~instance of the second~~ reference ~~in response to the first file~~ to the second object; ~~wherein the processor is configured to~~

~~determined~~ determine, from the specification of the first object, another ~~instance of a~~ value ~~of a~~ for the public attribute ~~from~~ of the second object; ~~in response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to provide the second reference to the storage system, wherein the processor is configured to receive the second file from the storage system, wherein~~

~~the processor is configured to open another instance of the second file, and wherein the processor is configured to~~

create another instance of the second object in the object environment; and

override a default value [[of]] <u>for</u> the public attribute ~~from~~ <u>of</u> the another instance of the second object with the <u>another</u> value <u>determined from the specification of the first object</u>.

14.   (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program product for a computer system including a processor coupled to a server comprises~~ <u>A machine-readable medium for a computer system, the machine-readable medium having stored thereon a series of instructions which, when executed by a processing component, cause the processing component to:</u>

~~code that directs the processor to allow a user to~~ create a first object in an object environment;

~~code that directs the processor to~~ determine a reference to a <u>specification of a</u> second object ~~in the server~~ <u>stored in a storage system communicatively coupled to the processing component,</u> ~~wherein~~ <u>the specification of</u> the second object ~~includes~~ <u>including information identifying</u> a ~~first~~ plurality of public attributes <u>of the second object</u> and a ~~second~~ plurality of private attributes <u>of the second object;</u>

~~code that directs the processor to~~ create an instance of the second object in the object environment;

~~code that directs the processor to~~ determine a modified value for a public attribute ~~from the first plurality of public attributes for~~ <u>of</u> the second object; and

~~code that directs the processor to~~ override a default value for the public attribute with the modified value;

wherein the public attribute of the second object stored in the ~~server~~ <u>storage system</u> is not modified; and

~~wherein the codes reside on a tangible media; and~~

wherein values for the ~~second~~ plurality of private attributes <u>of the second object</u> cannot be modified by users of the first ~~file~~ <u>object</u>.

15.   (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ machine-readable medium of claim 14 wherein the ~~server~~ storage system is selected from a group consisting of: a directory server, a asset management server, and a database server.

16.   (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ machine-readable medium of claim [[15]] 14 further ~~comprising~~ including instructions that cause the processing component to:
           ~~code that directs the processor to~~ create a first file including a specification of the first object, the reference to the specification of the second object in the ~~server~~ storage system, and the modified value for the public attribute; and
           ~~code that directs the processor to~~ provide the first file to the ~~server~~ storage system for storage;
           wherein the first file excludes the specification of the second object.

17.   (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ machine-readable medium of claim 14 further ~~comprising~~ including instructions that cause the processing component to::
           ~~code that directs the processor to~~ create an additional instance of the second object in the object environment;
           ~~code that directs the processor to~~ determine a modified value for a public attribute ~~from the first plurality of public attributes for~~ of the additional instance of the second object; and
           ~~code that directs the processor to~~ override a default value for the public attribute ~~for~~ of the additional instance of the second object with the modified value.

18.   (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ machine-readable medium of claim 17 wherein the modified value for the public attribute ~~for~~ of the instance of the second object and the modified value for the public attribute ~~for~~ of the additional instance of the second object are different.

19 - 20. (Canceled)